ICO call for views on a data protection and journalism code of practice

The Information Commissioner is calling for views on a data protection and journalism code of practice (the code).

The Data Protection Act 2018 requires the Commissioner to produce a code of practice that provides practical guidance and promotes good practice in regard to processing personal data for the purposes of journalism. Our intention is for the code to provide practical, pragmatic guidance for journalists on how to comply with data protection legislation, building on the detailed guidance that we have already produced for this sector.

This call for views is the first stage of the consultation process. The Commissioner is seeking input from relevant stakeholders, including media organisations, trade associations, data subjects and those representing the interests of data subjects. For further information on the call for views, please read our blog post here.

We will use the responses we receive to inform our work in developing the code.

You can email your response to journalismcode@ico.org.uk.

Or print and post to:

Journalism Code Call for Views
Policy & Engagement Department
Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire SK9 5AF

The call for views will be open until **Monday 27th May 2019**.

Privacy statement

For this consultation we will publish all responses except for those where the respondent indicates that they are an individual acting in a private capacity (e.g. a member of the public). All responses from organisations and individuals responding in a professional capacity (e.g. academics, freelance journalists, sole traders, legal professionals) will be published. We will remove email addresses

and telephone numbers from these responses but apart from this we will publish them in full.

For more information about what we do with personal data please see our privacy notice.

Questions

Q1 We are considering using our current guidance "Data protection and journalism: a guide for the media" as the basis on which we will build the new journalism code. Do you agree or disagree with this approach?

☐ Agree

☐ Disagree

Q2 If you disagree, please explain why?

Q3 "Data protection and journalism: a guide for the media" is split into three sections:

- "Practical guidance" aimed at anyone working in the journalism sector;

- "Technical guidance" aimed at data protection practitioners within media organisations; and

- "Disputes", aimed at senior editors and staff responsible for data protection compliance.

Do you think we should retain this structure for the code?

☐ Yes

☐ No

Q4 If no, do you have any suggestions about how we should structure the code?

Q5 Do you think the ICO's existing guidance for journalists addresses the main areas where data protection issues commonly arise?

☐ Agree

☐ Disagree

Q6 If no, what additional areas would you like to see covered?

Q7 The journalism code will address changes in data protection law, including developments in relevant case law. Are there any particular changes to data protection law that you think we should focus on in the code?

Q8 Apart from recent changes to data protection law, are there any other developments that are having an impact on journalism that you think we should address in the code?

Q9 Are there any case studies or journalism scenarios that you would like to see included in the journalism code?

Q10 Do you have any other suggestions for the journalism code?

About you

Q11 Are you answering these questions as?

- ☐ A media organisation?
- ☐ A trade association?
- ☐ An organisation representing the interests of data subjects?
- ☐ An academic?
- ☐ An individual acting in a professional capacity?
- ☐ An organisation that regulates press standards?

☐ An individual acting in a private capacity (e.g. someone providing their views as a member of the public)?

☐ Other?

If you answered 'other' please specify:

Q12 How did you find out about this survey?

☐ ICO website

☐ Social media

☐ Conference/seminar

☐ Trade/professional association

☐ Media

☐ Word of mouth

☐ Other?

Q13 We may want to contact you about some of the points you have raised. If you are happy for us to do this please provide your email address:

Thank you for taking the time to share your views and experience.